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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/004,576	12/04/2001	David G. Gayle	P5994	5123

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HOGAN & HARTSON LLP
ONE TABOR CENTER, SUITE 1500
1200 SEVENTEEN ST.
DENVER, CO 80202

EXAMINER
HAMZA, FARUK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>04 December 2001</u>.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
    closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-19</u> is/are pending in the application.
    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>04 December 2001</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
    1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
    3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
        application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed on December 04, 2001.

Claims 1-19 are now pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

3.   Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by

Deuser et al (U.S. Patent Number 6,816,864) hereinafter referred as Desuser.

4.   Deuser has disclosed:

* <Claim 1>

A computer system for automating communications between client

devices and service provider devices linked to a data communications

network, comprising:

        a service provider device linked to the communications network

including a conversion and connection mechanism for receiving streamed

service requests, for converting the streamed service request to a request

document, and transmitting the request document to a target service; and

(Column 7, lines 65-67; Column 8, lines 1-7)

a client device linked to the communications network including a client

agent that creates a service request and a conversion and connection

mechanism that parses the service request to identify the target service, that

opens a communication connection with the service provider device, and that

transmits the streamed service request over the communications network to the

service provider device. (Column 4, lines 52-65)

- <Claim 2>

The computer system of claim 1, wherein the conversion and connection

mechanism of the service provider is further configured for receiving a response

document, for in response opening a communication connection with the client

device, for converting the request document to a request string, and for

streaming the response string to the communication connection at the client

device over the communications network. (Fig. 3)

- <Claim 3>

The computer system of claim 2, wherein the response string is streamed

using a streaming protocol based on TCP/IP. (Column 1, lines 44-51)

- <Claim 4>

    The computer system of claim 3, wherein the streaming protocol is selected from the group consisting of HTTP, HTTPS, and UDP. (Column 1, lines 53-56)

- <Claim 5>

    The computer system of claim 2, wherein the service provider includes a response generator adapted to create the response document from a service response created by the target service. (Column 8, lines 22-32)

- <Claim 6>

    The computer system of claim 5, wherein the response document and the request document are in a formatted structure used by the service provider and the client device. (Column 8, lines 22-32)

- <Claim 7>

    The computer system of claim 6, wherein the formatted structure is an extensible Markup Language (XML) document or a Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) document. (Column 8, lines 22-32)

- <Claim 8>

    The computer system of claim 2, wherein the conversion and connection

mechanism of the client device is adapted for converting streamed response

string into an instance of the response document. (Column 8, lines 22-32)

- <Claim 9>

    The computer system of claim 8, wherein the instance of the response

document is in a formatted structure document and wherein the client device

further includes a component for recognizing the formatted structure and

converting the instance of the request document to a service response useable

by the client agent. (Column 8, lines 22-32)

- <Claim 10>

    A method for use in a service provider system for automating

communication conversions and connections, comprising:

        receiving, over a communications network from a client machine, a

streamed service request for a target service; (Column 8, lines 1-3)

        converting the streamed service request into a request document;

(Column 8, 1-7)

        transmitting the request document to the target service; (Column 8, 1-7)

        in response, receiving a response document from the target service;

(Column 8, lines 25-27)

        converting the response document to a service response configured for

streaming over the communications network; (Column 8, lines 27-30)

allocating a port on the client machine with a base networking

protocol, wherein the client machine and the target service use a single

connection; and (Column 9, lines 55-58)

streaming the service response to the port of the client machine. (Column

9, lines 55-58)

- <Claim 11>

The method of claim 10, wherein the streamed service request converting

includes verifying the client machine is an acceptable source of service requests

and verifying validity of the request document by comparing included data types

in the request document with expected data definitions. (Column 2, lines 44-47;

Column 6, lines 32-37)

- <Claim 12>

The method of claim 10, wherein the request document and the response

document are in a formatted structure common to the target service and the

client machine. (Column 8, lines 1-7; lines 25-30)

- <Claim 13>

The method of claim 10, wherein the response document converting and

the service response streaming are performed according to a streaming protocol

based on TCP/IP. (Column 1, lines 49-51)

- <Claim 14>

    The method of claim 10, further including converting the request document

into a request object prior to the transmitting and creating the response

document from a response object received from the target service prior to the

response document receiving. (Column 8, lines 1-7; lines 25-30)

- <Claim 15>

    A method for use in a service provider client-server network, comprising:

at a client device:

    generating a service request document having a first form; (Column 8,

lines 1-6)

        converting the service request document into a service string

having a streaming form according to a data transfer protocol; (Column 8, lines 1-

6)

        allocating a port on the client device based on a base networking protocol

to establish a single communication connection with a service provider device

identified in the service request document; (Column 9, lines 56-59)

        transmitting the service string over a communications network to the

communication connection at the service provider device; (Column 8, lines 6-7)

        at the service provider device:

converting the service string into an instance of the service request

document having the first form; (Column 8, lines 8-16)

transmitting the instance to a target service; (Column 8, lines 8-16)

receiving a response document based on the instance; (Column 8, lines

17-23)

converting the response document into a response string having a

streaming form according to the data transfer protocol; (Column 8, lines 23-27)

allocating a port on the client device to establish the communication

connection with the client device; and (Column 9, lines 56-59)

transmitting the response string over the communications network to the

port at the client device. (Column 8, lines 25-27)

- <Claim 16>

    The method of claim 15, further including at the client device:

    receiving the response string; (Column 8, lines 26-30)

    converting the response string into an instance of the response document;

and (Column 8, lines 26-30)

    providing the instance of the response document to a client agent. (26-30)

- <Claim 17>

    The method of claim 16, wherein the first form and a form of the response

document are in formatted structure common to the client device and the service

provider device. (Column 8, lines 1-7; lines 25-30)

- <Claim 18>

   The method of claim 15, wherein the data transfer document is streamed

   using a streaming protocol based on TCP/IP. (Column 1, lines 49-51).

- <Claim 19>

   The method of claim 15, further including at the client device:

   determining the data transfer protocol based on the service provider

   device identified in the service request. (Column 8, lines 33-55)

Conclusion

5.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

the applicant's disclosure.

- Himmel (U.S. Patent Number 6,167,441) discloses a system of customization of

   web pages based on request type.

- Berman et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,995,939) discloses automated networked

   service request and fulfillment system and method.

- Scholl et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,145,001) discloses a network management

   system.

- Sato (U.S. Patent Number 6,839,765) discloses system for transferring multimedia information.

- Edwards et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,834,312) discloses method and apparatus for delivering data over a network.

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Faruk Hamza whose telephone number is 571-272-7969. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached at 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 886-217-9197 (toll –free).

Faruk Hamza

Patent Examiner

HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER